

Sanctuary Education Team

Meeting Notes

Date: 2002 June 12

Time + Place: 6 to 8 PM; Channel Islands National Park headquarters, Ventura Harbor

1) Welcome, Introductions

Larry Manson, Co-Chair

Members in attendance:

Kathy deWet-Oleson, Co-Chair

Larry Manson, Co-Chair

Michael Behrens, Research

Barry Hummel, Jr, Diving

Holly Lohuis, Tourism

Cal Meuser, Recreational Boating

Frank Sullivan, Recreational Fishing

Members absent:

Michael Hanrahan, Media

Bill Kulhanek, Yachting

Lori Pye, Environment/Conservation

Mary Stack, Education: Marine

Attending:

Shauna Bingham, Resource: CINMS

Julie Bursek, Resource: CINMS

Michael Smith, Resource: CINMS

Yvonne Menard, Resource: CINP

Bobby Cochran, Summit to the Sea

Josh Kaye-Carr, Parrotfish Productions

Staci Kaye-Carr, Parrotfish Productions

Bill Weinerth, Sanctuary Naturalist Corps

2) SET Progress Report

Kathy deWet-Oleson, Co-Chair

Kathy deWet-Oleson described past member reports and passed out a grid-outline representation that collates the report data in a manner that can be compared and used to determine needs from which priorities and eventually a strategy can be developed. As reports are made the new data can be entered in the same format.

3) SET representative reports

SET members

Frank Sullivan, Recreational Fishing.

It should be noted that Frank is a member of United Anglers, but he does not speak for the organization.

Cal Meuser, Recreational Boating

Because these two user groups overlap and share many distinctions, much of the discussion can be applied to both.

The presentations initiated a very rich discussion, especially reflecting Frank's concern: "How do I know if I am in violation?"

Cal Meuser, who has worked with the Ventura Power Squadron for a long time, expressed his personal frustration at not being able to get the message out to enough people about boating safety. His concerns demonstrated the difficulty in getting any message across, including SET's task of informing the public about the current reserve areas around Anacapa Island.

Frank thought that whatever the message it should be a part of something useful for other, related purposes so that it has value.

Many wanted proper markings on charts.

Ideas of how to present the message at the site included: buoys marking the closed area, low-frequency radio, and signs along the coast of near-shore reserves. And, it was noted that National Park enforcement people often give only warning tickets to violators and provide directions and face-to-face information at the site.

It was asked later if this demographic information (boat origin, passenger origin, nature of violation) could be made available to help SET focus on the problem. Yvonne Menard will see if such information can be made available.

The DOCKWALKERS program was discussed as a way to reach boats in slips.

Cal pointed out that his signage in the harbor had almost no impact. Many had not even seen the signs. The good news, though, is "At the present time, the Power Squadron, aided by other agencies [in a coordinated effort], is working on a pamphlet containing marine information that will be distributed county wide when completed." The truly good news is that agencies are working together. Many SET members have brought up inconsistencies and contradictions presented to users from different agencies in the past.

4) Share PISCO (Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans) products in the making for marine reserve education.

Kathy deWet-Oleson

Kathy proposed that Satie Airame, Science Advisor for CINMS, make a presentation and preview material that was developed to describe the marine reserves process in general terms for international distribution. Satie was at the center of the Marine Reserve Working Group and their activities have become a case study for marine planning all over the world. It was agreed without a vote that SET would like to have a presentation as soon as the next meeting by Satie.

5) Discuss opportunities for Oceans Conference in Santa Barbara at end of October
Larry Manson

SET has been working to develop an education plan for submission to SAC in September that was to coincide with the decision by the California Department of Fish and Game about marine reserves in the Channel Islands. The time for a decision has been postponed by DFG to December. Since the reports and planning to this point have focused on the existing protected areas around Anacapa Island, it was agreed that the coming Oceans Conference in Santa Barbara would be an ideal opportunity to present our work. CINMS will be making a presentation about the marine reserve process and education will be a component. It was agreed without vote to complete the planning for the Anacapa reserves for presentation at the Oceans Conference.

6) Consider SET Mission Statement
Kathy deWet-Oleson

Proposed starting point: "The Sanctuary Education Team mission is to assist the Sanctuary Advisory Council in making recommendations to Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary regarding advancing public understanding of the diverse and unique marine resources of the region and to promote stewardship of marine ecosystems."

It was agreed without vote that submissions of suggestions of concept, verbiage, phraseology, and/or alternative statements should be submitted to Michael Smith <michael.h.smith@noaa.gov> by Friday, June 21. Kathy will then lead a team to present a mission statement for approval to SET at the next meeting.

7) Other business
Larry Manson

The next SAC meeting will be July 12. Larry will be on vacation. If Kathy is also unavailable, Michael Smith will make the SET presentation to SAC with direction and content from Larry and Kathy.

The next SET meeting will be Wednesday evening, August 14 from 6 to 8 in Santa Barbara, either at Chase Palm Park Center or the Waterfront Classroom in the harbor. Set will continue to hear reports and begin looking at the collated data for preliminary strategies. There was a question about beginning to consider budgetary constraints and it was agreed without vote that budget needs to be a part of the planning.

The SAC meeting after is September 13 (Friday).
Adjourn

